

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

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DRAFTED BY EA/PRCM:ADROMBERG:CED

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R 252243Z SEP 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, PFOR, CH

SUBJECT: RENEWAL OF VISAS FOR USLO PERSONNEL

REF: STATE 184280

1. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT USLO PERSONNEL NOW HAVE SIX-MONTH, MULTIPLE-ENTRY VISAS VALID FOR ENTRY TO THE PRC AT PEKING, SHANGHAI, CANTON OR SHUMCHUN. AS USLO IS AWARE, WE HAVE ISSUED TWELVE-MONTH, MULTIPLE-ENTRY VISAS TO PRCLO PERSONNEL VALID FOR ANY PORT OF ENTRY.

2. IT IS EVIDENT THAT BOTH SIDES HAVE MADE SPECIAL EFFORTS TO ACCOMMODATE THE OTHER. ON THE CHINESE SIDE, SO FAR AS WE KNOW, OUR OFFICIALS WERE THE FIRST (AND AT THAT TIME, AT LEAST, THE ONLY) FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES IN PEKING TO BE ISSUED MULTIPLE-ENTRY VISAS. ON THE US SIDE, WE ISSUED TWELVE-MONTH VISAS, EVEN THOUGH WE KNEW THAT PEKING HAD ISSUED SHORTER-TERM VISAS; WE OBTAINED A SPECIAL RULING THAT WOULD ALLOW THE B-1 VISAS TO BE RENEWED IN WASHINGTON RATHER THAN ABROAD AS USUALLY REQUIRED; AND WE DID NOT LIMIT PRCLO OFFICIALS TO THE SIX PORTS OF ENTRY NORMALLY DESIGNATED FOR OFFICIALS OF COMMUNIST COUNTRIES.

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3. PRINCIPLE OF RECIPROCITY IS IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN OUR

RELATIONSHIP. ACCORDINGLY, WHEN FIRST USLO VISAS COME

UP FOR RENEWAL, USLO SHOULD SEEK APPOINTMENT WITH APPROPRIATE MFA OFFICIAL AND MAKE FORMAL REQUEST THAT, ON THE BASIS OF RECIPROCITY, MULTIPLE-ENTRY VISAS BE EXTENDED FOR TWELVE MONTHS. YOU SHOULD DRAW ON PARAGRAPH 2 ABOVE AS NECESSARY. PLEASE REPORT OUTCOME.

4. WE DO NOT/NOT BELIEVE WE SHOULD SEEK AT THIS TIME TO OBTAIN PRC AGREEMENT TO INCLUDE SUCH PORTS OF ENTRY AS NANNING AND KUNMING, EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE USED BY CERTAIN FOREIGN TRAVELERS. WE WOULD WELCOME USLO'S VIEWS ON THIS, HOWEVER.

5. WERE PEKING TO REFUSE THIS REQUEST, WE WOULD HAVE TO CONSIDER RENEWING PRCLO VISAS FOR ONLY SIX MONTHS, BUT WE BELIEVE REFERENCE TO RECIPROCITY WOULD BE SUFFICIENT TO CONVEY THIS MESSAGE TO THE PRC AND QUESTION OF US REACTION TO PRC REFUSAL SHOULD NOT/NOT BE RAISED WITH MFA.

RUSH

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